



Attorney's Docket 7163-34

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Schaldach

Examiner: Unknown

Ser. No.: 10/021,899

Art Group: Unknown

Title: METHOD OF APPLYING A MARKER ELEMENT TO AN IMPLANT AND AN IMPLANT PROVIDED WITH A MARKER ELEMENT

Filed: 13 December 2001

Date: 8 March 2002

*Free Amends*

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This Preliminary Amendment is filed with the missing parts in this case, which is based on German application 100 64 596.8, which was filed on 18 December 2000. The fees for the claims should be calculated based on the claims remaining after the entry of this Preliminary Amendment, which results in 36 total claims, 2 of which are independent. Consistent with the modifications to 37 CFR §1.121, the applicant has provided a clean copy of the claims as they stand after amendment.

Amendments to the Disclosure

None at this time. In order to introduce paragraph numbering and headings as are customary in U.S. practice, a clean copy of the specification pages identical to the verified translation is provided for examination purposes, under 37 CFR §1.125. No new matter is presented in the clean copy of the specification.

Amendments to the Figures

None at this time.

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

- A*
1. (amended) A method of applying a marker element [(6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25'; 26; 28)] to an implant [(1; 1'; 1"; 1'''; 20; 20'), in particular a stent,] intended for implantation in a [the] human or an animal body, said implant comprising a main body and an opening [(3; 3'; 3"; 3'''; 21; 21')] provided in said main body [(2; 2'; 2"; 2'''; 22; 22')] for receiving the marker element [(6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25'; 26; 28)], comprising the steps of: